

Remarks

Claims 1-12 and 14-16 are pending in the present application. By this amendment, the Abstract, specification, and claims 1-4, 6, 10-12, and 15-16 have been amended, and claim 13 has been cancelled. No new matter is believed added.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-9, 13-14, and 16.

The Abstract and specification have been amended as requested by the Examiner.

Claim 1 has been amended to address the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 10-12 and 15 have been amended to address the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

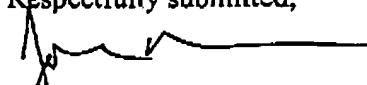
Claims 1-4, 6, and 16 have been amended for non-statutory reasons: to replace European-style claim phrasology with American-style claim language.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit the present patent application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes that anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 6/7/05


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